SUBJECT No. 30.

Extra allotment for maintenance of tanks.

Messrs. B. Srinivasaiengar and R. Subba Rao, Anekal Taluk, Gubbiah, Anekal Municipality; Setti Basappa, Hoskote Municipality and Guruva Reddy, Bangalore Taluk.

Mr. B. Srinivasiengar.—It is stated in the Dewan's Address that tanks are very important for the prosperity of the country. At present, only the irrigation cess is utilised for the maintenance of tanks. The allotment is very inadequate and should be increased. The delay in the maintenance of tanks causes a lot of hardship to the ryots as well as loss of revenue to Government.

Revenue Commissioner.—Delay is being avoided as much as possible. If very bad instances are brought to notice, necessary steps will be taken.

Dewan.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 31.

Restoration of Minor Tanks.

Messrs. Ramakrishna Iyer, Kolar Taluk; Srinivasachar, Kolar Municipality and Venkatarayappa, Chikballapur Municipality.

Mr. Ramakrishna Iyer.—The work done by the Maramat Department is very unsatisfactory so much so that the cost of work executed by this Department is less than what is spent by Government on its establishment. There is a lot of delay in the preparation of estimates and execution of works. The Department may, with advantage, be amalgamated with the Public Works Department.

Mr. A. Ananthaiya.—It is said that the delay in the execution of works is partly due to the low rates. If this is so, the rates may be revised.

Mr. Usmankhan.—I can mention instances in which the works were sanctioned six years ago for which estimates have not yet been prepared. The agency is not satisfactory. Some time limit should be fixed for the disposal of applications and works for which estimates are sanctioned should be executed within a stated time.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastry.—I am also of the opinion that the agency is not satisfactory. It is understood that the delay in the execution of works is due to the Revenue Department not paying regularly every month according to the work done. I have not heard of any complaints about the inadequacy of the rates. A periodical statement may be called for by Government and reviewed to prevent delays.

Revenue Commissioner.—If instances of inordinate delay are brought to the notice of Government, the matter will be enquired into.

Dewan.—The whole question is under consideration and an order will issue soon.